

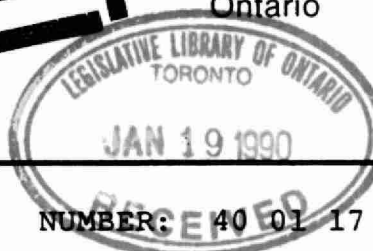


Ontario

Ministry
of the
Environment

Hon. Andrew S. Brandt,
Minister

Gérard J. M. Raymond,
Deputy Minister



about pesticides

NUMBER: 40 01 17

DATE: July 1983

AQUA KLEEN (2,4-D)

Aqua Kleen (2,4-D) is a Schedule 2 herbicide requiring a permit for purchase and use. It contains 20% by weight of 2,4-D acid equivalent, formulated as the butoxy-ethanol ester. It is a granular systemic herbicide which releases 2,4-D over a one to two week period, and is effective against water milfoil (Myriophyllum spp.), bladderwort (Utricularia spp.), white water lily (Nymphaea spp.), yellow water lily (Nuphar spp.), and coontail (Ceratophyllum demersum). The latter two are more resistant, and repeat treatments may therefore be needed. Plant kill is slow since the chemical is taken up by the entire plant. If used early in the growing season, control can last through the year.

If the weed growth is very dense, the water is more than 2.4 metres deep or there is high volume turnover, use the higher rate of chemical recommended on the label. The use of Aqua Kleen in fast flowing waters such as rivers is not recommended, as natural water movement will carry the granules beyond the area in which they are spread. It is important that buffer zones are left between properties.

Aqua Kleen may be spread by hand from a dock or boat. A small spreader like a Cyclone seeder may also be used. Uniform distribution is very important, so care must be taken to use guide poles and mark out the area to be treated.

Decomposition following the death of the weeds uses oxygen dissolved in the water, and may be sufficient to reduce the available oxygen so much that fish die. If a large area is to be treated, it is best to treat not more than one half of the total at a time.

Aqua Kleen works better if the water is acidic (pH 6.0 or below) rather than alkaline (pH 8.0 or above).

Do not use water from treated confined waters for livestock or human consumption for at least 60 days and for at least 21 days after treatment in open bodies of water.

Similarly, do not use water for irrigation or for spraying agricultural crops sensitive to 2,4-D such as tomatoes, legumes and grapes.

This factsheet has been reviewed by the Ontario Pesticides Advisory Committee.

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